Volume 22, No. 07 • February 6, 2015

Nation

Happy Valentine's Day

Jack Blacksmith returns

Bus battle heats up

$2.50 Free in Iyiyuuschii
Serving Iyiyuuschii since 1993
Canada Post Publication No. 40015005

Your Northern Airline of choice!

We offer discounted rates and seat sales.*

airCreebec

For reservations, charters or information, call toll-free: 1-800-567-6567

Or visit our website at: www.aircreebec.ca

*certain conditions apply to seat sales

Feds spend millions on self-promotional "news"

by Lily Ryan,
Editor of the West Quebec Post

In my junk folder are hundreds of emails from a company called "News Canada". This is a pseudo news agency that offers free newspaper content. I scan through their emails for news leads from time to time, but not once have I published any of their articles.

Generally these barely disguised press releases cover banking news or big-box store openings. Others feature federal ministers making funding announcements. This is a paid service that offers clients a way to push faux "news" onto low-budget community newspapers and their unsuspecting readers. Obviously, Mr Harper's government doesn't trust trained journalists to get its message out.

Why does this matter to readers of the West Quebec Post? Well, when was the last time the federal government communicated with you, readers of the Post? Did Veterans Affairs explain improvements in benefit packages to readers? How about changes to federal child tax benefit amounts? Did readers see any ads from the federal government about these?

The answer is no. In fact, the answer is a deafeningly silent big fat NO! And the no is about to get louder with Ottawa's new way of communicating with Canadians: controlling news that is bought and paid for with your tax dollars

In a Public Works tender notice dated December 17, 2014, News Canada is named as the single tendered company that will provide the federal government with articles tailored to the government ministry in question. The contract is worth $4.34 million over three years for advertorial writing, plus Twitter and Facebook postings. At least $1.25 million in taxpayer funds will flow to this company in 2015.

This is not journalism, which requires research and verification of multiple sources. It will be disguised as such, though. It is possible that some editors across Canada will publish News Canada's free articles. Readers may be fooled into believing they are reading journalistic articles (researched, fact-checked and verified), but which are in fact nothing but propaganda chockfull of skewed federal government announcements. This should strike fear, perhaps disgust, in the hearts of Canadians.

I assure you, West Quebec Post readers, that you will not find such reprints in your newspaper. We are delighted to be a vehicle for straightforward federal advertising. These are clearly framed as ads, meant to inform the population about changes or improvements to government agencies. West Quebec Post journalists may dig deeper into such announcements, but we assure readers they will be written according to a journalistic code of ethics – as is everything published in this newspaper.

Ed Note: This is the first time we have used an editorial from another newspaper. In this case, we feel the subject matter is important. It is what being a community newspaper is all about – delivering real news, not propaganda from any source, whether it is corporate or government. It is a responsibility that most independent community papers take seriously and what our readers deserve.

Contents

editorial
- Feds spend millions on self-promotional "news" 3

rez notes
- Black History Month is a Thriller 4

news
- Wiring the nation 5
- Apprentices gain skills 7

features
- Jack Blacksmith returns 10
- Bus battle heats up 12
- Valentine's Day 15
- Montreal's annual sex salon 27
- Recipes from Hogtown 30
- Motor mania 35

UTNS
- Freedom is fleeting 42

Black History Month is a Thriller

by Joshua Iserhoff

February is Black History Month and if you haven't heard much about this that's understandable. I had my first introduction back in my college days, but there's not much talk about it up north. To the south, however, US media will showcase many African American-themed topics throughout the month.

For myself, I'm going to observe the event by taking in the movie *Selma*. It is a chronicle of Martin Luther King's epic 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, during his campaign to secure equal voting rights for Black people at a time Jim Crow laws stripped many of their democratic rights.

There are many African-American history makers who changed the course of history. I remember passing through Gary, Indiana, with Ashley Iserhoff and my sister Fawn. The town is pretty run down but seeing where Michael Jackson used to live and play, dance and sing was history to us. I have no doubt that African-American civil rights activist Rosa Parks rejoiced over his music for Michael sure paved a way for many artists!

When I think of Black History Month and how influential it is now, I want the same for all of us First Nations people. I want our stories to reverberate across the globe. Each tribe from Plains Cree, to Hobbema, to Algonquin, to Cherokee, to Navaho, to Eeyou, we all have an incredible rich history to share to the world. Many of our people were killed, relocated, assimilated, abused, exploited and everything in between yet our stories are not being told on the big screen (or not enough) or are not taught in our schools.

Why is that? If our African-American brothers and sisters can win space for their history, why can't we? Wouldn't it be fantastic if a First Nations film won an Oscar for Best Picture? Don't get me started with the silly *Lone Ranger* film starring Johnny Depp's chiselled cheekbones. I want to see a First-Nations film that evokes and exudes Native pride. No casinos please.

Conspiracy of Silence and *Where the Spirit Lives* both had a big impact on me. I have yet to see an equally riveting film in recent years. Neil Diamond, please make me happy and do a movie with James Cameron! I kid, mostly. Or call Alanis Obomsawin.

The Canadian Parliament declared that June is National Aboriginal History Month. We all celebrate and go crazy on June 21, National Aboriginal Day, mostly by showcasing our trends, dances, music, drum, chants and everything that breathes First Nations.

For most of us Eeyouch, it's fiddle time until 4:00 am, which I love! June is five months away: I am excited to see what each community will share. Please document your events so all of us can be part of your history. As I sit in my room at the Maquatua Inn here in Wemindji I'm thinking I'd love to hear more history of the Paint Hills.

If you have time, read up on Black history and get ideas for your community or classrooms. I'd love to see our youth in Eeyou Istchee immerse themselves and develop plays! The Mind's Eye was a great success. Imagine more! I think I smell an Oscar in a few years. Happy Black History Month!

the Nation is published every two weeks
by Beesum Communications
This paper contains 70% recycled materials

EDITORIAL BOARD
L. Stewart, W. Nicholls,
M. Siberok, N. Diamond, E. Webb

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Will Nicholls

DIRECTOR OF FINANCES
Linda Ludwick

IYIYUU AYIMUUN EDITOR
Brian Webb

COPY EDITOR
Lyle Stewart, Martin Siberok

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
R. Mayer

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
L. Ryan, J. Staniforth, J Grant, A. German,
A. Reid, J. Barde, J. Iserhoff, X. Kataquapit,

PHOTOGRAPHY
L. Stewart, A. German, N. Diamond,
R. Mayer, W. Nicholls, D. Valade

SALES REPRESENTATIVES
Danielle Valade, Lyle Brebner

DESIGN AND LAYOUT
R. Lawson

THANKS TO: Air Creebec

WHERE TO REACH US:
POSTMASTER:
The Nation PRODUCTION OFFICE
4529 CLARK, #403, MONTREAL, QC., H2T 2T3
EDITORIAL & ADS
TEL.: 514-272-3077, FAX: 514-278-9914
The Nation HEAD OFFICE
P.O. BOX 151, CHISASIBI, QC. J0M 1E0
www.nationnews.ca
E-MAIL ADDRESSES:
Editorial: nation@nationnews.ca
news@nationnews.ca
Ads: for Danielle Valade
ads@nationnews.ca
for Lyle Brebner
publicity@nationnews.ca
SUBSCRIPTIONS
INDIVIDUALS & INSTITUTIONS:
$60 PLUS TAXES, US: $90, ABROAD: $110
PAYABLE TO BEESUM COMMUNICATIONS
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED
PUBLICATION MAIL #40015005
ISSN #1206-2642
The Nation IS A MEMBER OF:
THE JAMES BAY CREE
COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY,
CIRCLE OF ABORIGINAL
CONTROLLED PUBLISHERS,
MAGAZINES CANADA
QUEBEC COMMUNITY
NEWSPAPER ASSN.
CANADIAN COMMUNITY
NEWSPAPERS ASSN.
LES HEBDOS SÉLECT DU QUÉBEC
We acknowledge the financial support of the
Government of Canada through
the Canada Periodical Fund of the Department of
Canadian Heritage.
facebook.com/NATIONnewsmagazine
Twitter: @creenation_news

WIRING THE NATION

Eeyou Communications Network wants ultra-high-speed internet for everyone in Eeyou Istchee

by Jesse Staniforth

Alfred Loon thinks it's time for your house to get connected to the 21st century. The President of the Eeyou Communications Network (ECN) and Director of Economics and Sustainable Development for the Cree Nation Government, Loon wants to connect every home and business in Eeyou Istchee (as well as other James Bay communities) to ultra-fast fibre-optic internet.

"We're going to be offering bundle service, a triple play: high-speed internet, TV and [internet-based telephone]," he said. "It's an actual fibre cable that comes right to a terminal, the optical terminal unit, at each house."

Fibre-optic offers the fastest internet currently available – considerably faster than regular high-speed internet.

"It's always fibre!" announced Loon. "Don't talk to me about satellite! Don't talk to me about microwave! What we do is fibre."

This idea has been growing for a while, and began with a Phase 1 plan, which introduced a fibre-optic network connecting six of the nine Cree communities – except for Eastmain, Waskaganish and Whapmasgoostui – as well as some Jamesian municipalities. As a regional project under Cree leadership, Phase 1 targeted major entities – the Cree Health and School Boards, band councils, and other municipal offices and organizations.

The new plan has two parts. Phase 2 aims at connecting the major entities in Eastmain and Waskaganish (all the way to Matagami) to the existing network. The second and more ambitious part of the plan is to make fibre-optic internet available to every home and business in the region.

"We looked at different options available, and we came up with Fibre to the Home (FTTH)," Loon said. "That's the bundle service. Every household and small enterprise will get this – the number is in the low 9,000 homes, in both the communities and municipalities. We'll connect everybody. But the important thing is the take rate – how many people will take the service. Some people will only take one or two [of the internet, TV and telephone services], or all three. It's a different service mix, which means it's hard to determine."

> "WE'RE GOING TO BE OFFERING BUNDLE SERVICE, A TRIPLE PLAY: HIGH-SPEED INTERNET, TV AND [INTERNET-BASED TELEPHONE]. IT'S AN ACTUAL FIBRE CABLE THAT COMES RIGHT TO A TERMINAL, THE OPTICAL TERMINAL UNIT, AT EACH HOUSE."
>
> ALFRED LOON

Loon estimated that the average monthly cost per home for would be about $152, though it will depend on which services customers decide to order. Internet will be offered at three different speeds – 50, 100, and 1000 megabits per second. (1 Megabit = 0.125 Megabytes.) The initial setup will cost $100, and the program will create roughly 25 jobs in Eeyou Istchee.

ECN submitted a proposal January 12 to the federal government's Connecting Canadians initiative, which offers financial support to Internet providers improving connectivity in remote regions. The decision on the application will not be made until the spring.

However, Loon stresses that the future of the project is not in the hands of the Canadian government.

"This is going to happen in Eeyou Istchee," he said. "If the federal government gives us the money, good! It'll make our case more solid. But even if I don't get the grant money,

I'm still going to go ahead and do it. The project will sustain itself, based on the feasibility study."

As well, he added, "The Cree Nation Government is a very strong supporter of the project. I expect they'll give their financial support."

At the same time, Loon underscores that the Phase 2 project is the more important of the two possibilities, because as many Cree communities need to be connected as possible to ensure the stability of the fibre-optic network.

"On telecom system networks using fibre the way you go about it is you have to create a ring," he explained. "So if your cable's cut, it redirects your traffic and nobody gets disrupted. At the moment we don't have the ring, so that can create a problem for stability. That's why we need Phase 2 – to close the ring."

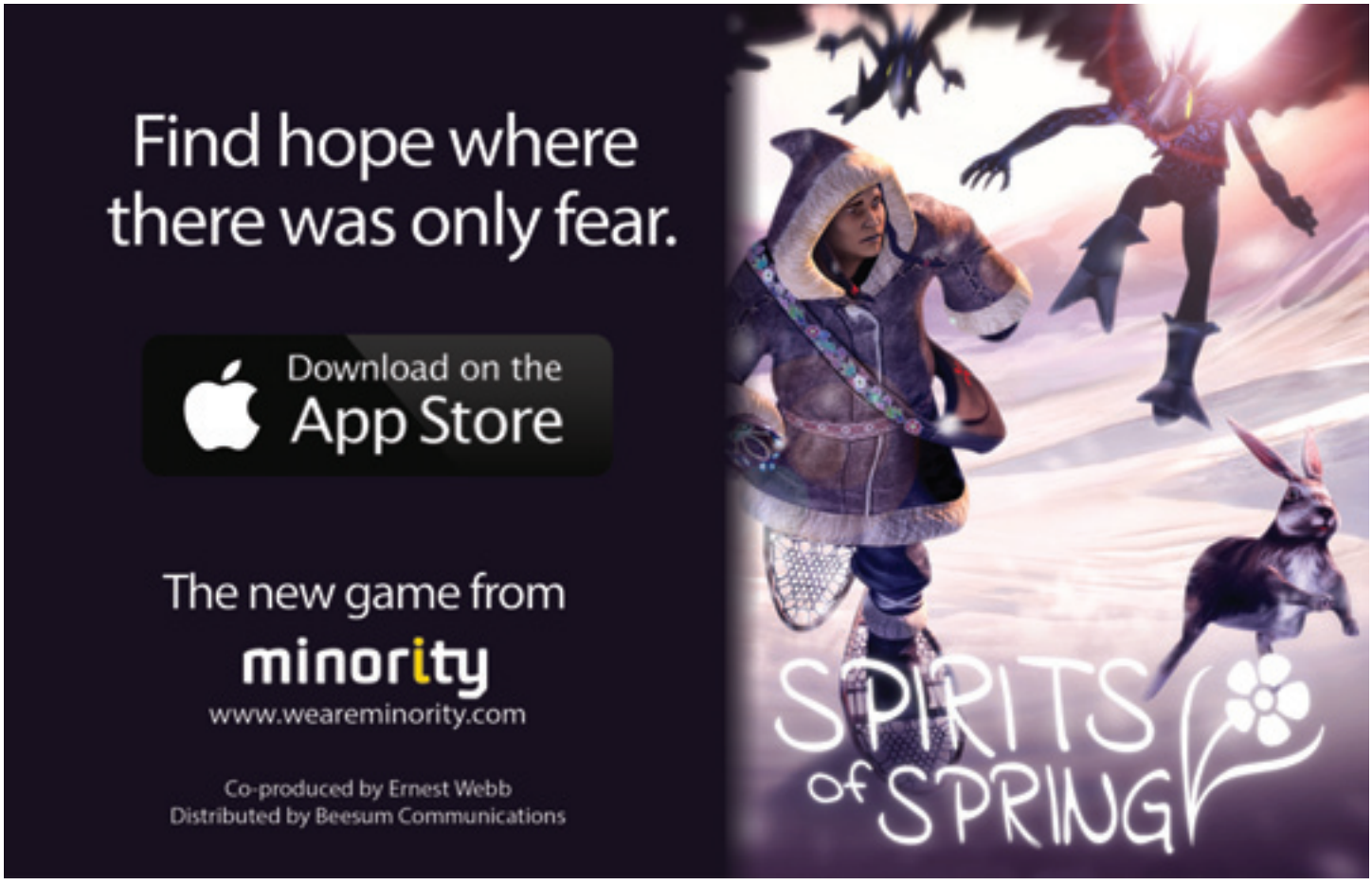
Once the ring is closed, Loon says, they will begin working on a plan to include Whapmagoostui, which presents a challenge because it has no roads or hydro lines connecting it to the other Cree communities. Loon foresees an underwater fibre-optic cable, which would make the least amount of disruption to the land, wildlife and traplines. However, Loon says ECN's engineer prefers installing the cables overland, which facilitates repairs in the event the cable is cut or damaged.

"Underwater it takes longer to fix," he said. "The boat would have to come from Halifax and it has a 40-man crew, so you pay a million bucks before you even reach your destination."

For Waskaganish and Eastmain, the plan is to bury the lines along the James Bay Highway to protect them from damage during seasonal forest fires.

Loon is optimistic that both wings of the project – Phase 2 and FTTH – should be complete by the middle of next winter. He wants the pricing to be competitive.

"A year from now, hopefully, we'll take care of the speed of the internet," he said. "The monthly rate of the triple-play we'll try to make it comparable to what they pay in the cities. You know what they say in economics, that the customer always pays at the end. I want to make sure the customer doesn't pay a hefty amount. The rates have to be affordable."



Learning on the job

Apprentices gain skills and accreditation through Ontario hydroelectric project

by Joel Barde

For Sophia Gunner, working on the Lower Mattagami hydroelectric project was an opportunity of a lifetime. As an apprentice carpenter, she assembled and disassembled scaffolding and helped build concrete forms. The work was critical to building a series of large dams 80 kilometres north of Kapuskasing.

"I learned something every day. People encouraged me and taught me the tricks of the trade," said Gunner.

She is among 70 registered apprentices who worked on the project, which was completed on schedule. Of the 1800 workers on the project, 250 were Aboriginal or Métis. And 10 of them completed their apprenticeships.

Gunner worked year round on the project that started in 2010, even in the dead of winter, when temperatures dipped down to -45 C.

"We always had the vehicle running and to go warm up whenever it was needed. I wore long johns, a pair of jeans and insulated coveralls. I actually preferred it to the heat of the summer," said Gunner.

Gunner is a member of the Moose Cree First Nation, which holds a 25% stake in the project. Gunner landed the job through SIBI, an employment agency set up by the Moose Cree that helped find First Nations jobs with the project.

Gunner said she approached SIBI after completing a pre-apprenticeship carpentry program in North Bay.

"Without them, there would have been no way of me getting into the Mattagami project. It was great for the learning experience. I needed hours for concrete work and scaffolding," said Gunner.

The $2.5 billion project has been praised by many as an example of how meaningful partnerships between industry and First Nations can create strong benefits for both parties. In addition to its ownership of the hydroelectric facility, the project has awarded $300 million worth of sub-contracts to Moose Cree businesses.

"The project has helped rejuvenate the Moose Cree community and given our economy a much-needed boost," Chief Norm Hardisty Jr. stated in a press release. "Many of our members will be able to use the training and new skills they developed to work on other infrastructure projects."

With a capacity of 438 megawatts, the hydroelectric project is the largest in northern Ontario in over 50 years.

"I've visited the Lower Mattagami site and have a great appreciation of the size and scope of this project as well as the people who have brought the project in on time and on budget," said Ontario Minister of Energy Bob Chiarelli. "The Lower Mattagami Project will deliver long-term results for our electricity system while providing clean, reliable and affordable electricity for Ontarians."

Gunner said carpentry has been a lifelong interest and she is glad to be pursuing it as a career. She likes working outdoors, and appreciates the sense of accomplishment she felt from working on a large-scale project.

Her father was a carpenter, and she joked that she always loved the smell of cut wood.

The work does have its challenges. At the start, she lived away from her family, and would only be able to visit on her off time. They eventually all moved to Kapuskasing. But that meant she would she made a three-hour round trip commute to work every day.

courtesy Sophia Gunner

Sophia Gunner

But she said the training was excellent and the pay was good. She started out at $15.50 an hour, a wage that rose to $27 by the time she left. And then there was "double double time" – on Saturday and Sundays employees made twice their hourly wage.

"Everybody helped out each other, no matter what level we were at. They didn't consider me an apprentice. They considered me a carpenter. Worked in different groups every time."

Gunner is now in the final stretch of her apprenticeship.

She needs to put in some more hours working on residential and commercial buildings before she becomes fully accredited. But her goal, Gunner said, is to work on large projects.

"I would like to work on more dams. I found it interesting how all the trades came together to build it."

CREE ABILITIES SESSION
EMPLOYMENT AND WELLNESS

ALL ARE WELCOME

2ND REGIONAL ABILITIES SESSION 2015

NEOSKWESKAU COMPLEX,
206 MAIN ST, MISTISSINI, QC
FROM: 9 AM TO 5 PM
DATE: MARCH 10-12, 2015

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL CHRD OFFICE TO LEARN MORE

CALL NOW
418 923 2525

ON WEB
info@chrd.ca
www.chrd.ca

SOCIAL MEDIA
f /Cree-Human-Resource-Development

WHY ATTEND?

- Learn what support is offered
- Financial Planning Workshops
- Disability Roundtable
- Employer Networking
- Information Sessions
- Learn what programs CHRD offers for disability clients

ABOUT US

The Regional Abilities Session was started to promote discussion on challenges currently facing persons with disability. We aim to promote greater awareness and opportunities for disabled clients living in Eeyou Istchee.

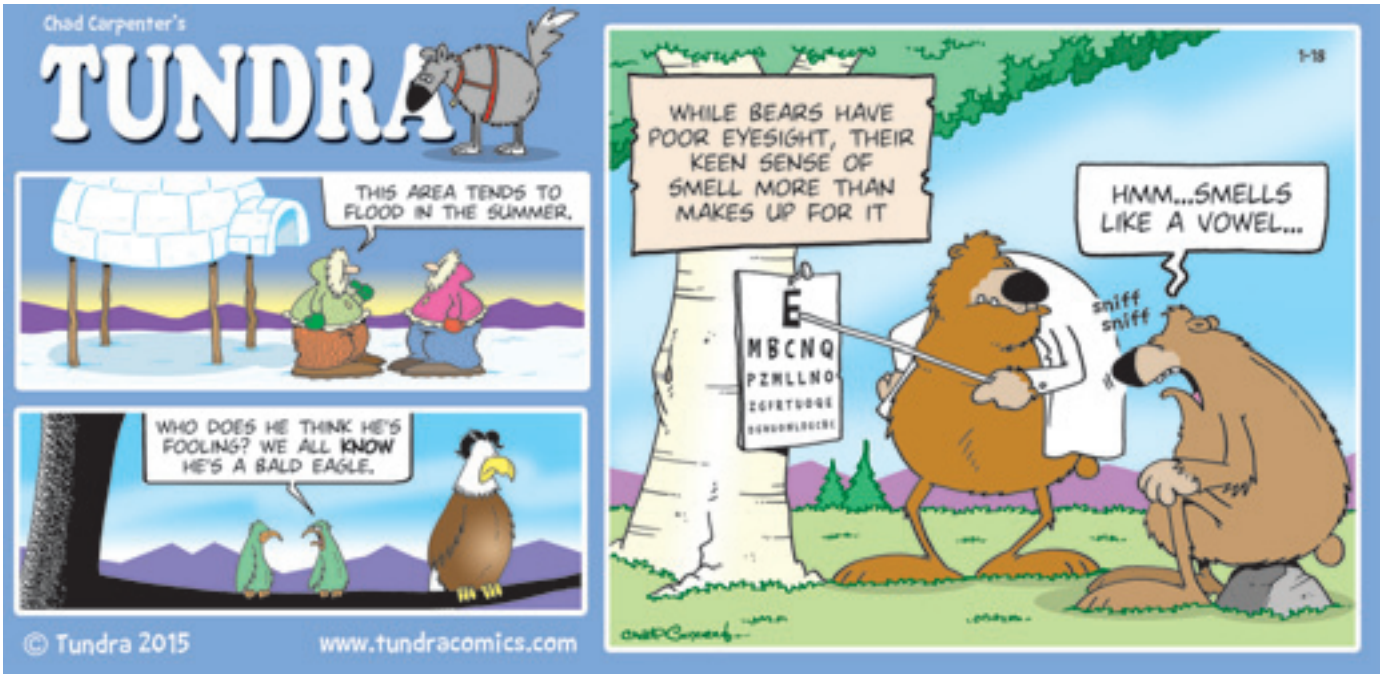
EVENT PARTNERS

Stornoway job fair draws hundreds

The Stornoway mining company is encouraged by the number of northern Quebecers who participated in their recruitment sessions over the past two weeks in Mistissini and Chibougamau. Stornoway interviewed a total of 991 applicants, some from as far away as La Gaspésie, with 254 interviews taking place in Mistissini and 697 in Chibougamau.

The Stornoway team said they were inspired by the interest and quality of the people who applied in Mistissini and would also like to thank the CHRD team for their cooperation and assistance. They also acknowledged those who came for interviews in Chibougamau and had to wait outside in -30C weather for several hours, the final applicant not being interviewed until 2 am.

Stornoway's project is set to be the first diamond mine in Quebec history. The company said it values the support of Eeyou Istchee, specifically the Cree Nation of Mistissini, as well as the people of Chibougamau-Chapais. Because of the necessary teamwork between the mining company and local residents, Stornoway says their hiring priorities will begin with those who are part of the Cree and the Chibougamau-Chapais communities.


Chad Carpenter's
TUNDRA
THIS AREA TENDS TO FLOOD IN THE SUMMER.
WHO DOES HE THINK HE'S FOOLING? WE ALL KNOW HE'S A BALD EAGLE.
WHILE BEARS HAVE POOR EYESIGHT, THEIR KEEN SENSE OF SMELL MORE THAN MAKES UP FOR IT
HMM...SMELLS LIKE A VOWEL...
sniff sniff
E
MBCNQ
PZMLLNO
© Tundra 2015
www.tundracomics.com

feature

Meet the new boss…

Jack Blacksmith returns to lead CREECO and the BOC

by Amy German

His name is synonymous with economic development in Eeyou Istchee, and now Waswanipi's Jack Blacksmith is back in charge at Cree Regional Economic Enterprises Company and the Board of Compensation.

Having been on the entity's board on and off since the mid 1980s and as president and chairman for almost a decade, Blacksmith brings a wealth of experience.

His return comes at a sensitive time for the dual entities. CREECO/BOC have so far successfully resisted Cree Nation Government attempts to absorb them and their assets into a powerful new structure created by the Paix des braves, the Cree Development Corporation.

The Nation spoke with Blacksmith about his return and his plans for the two economic institutions.

The Nation: How does it feel to be back at the helm?

Jack Blacksmith: It feels good. It is a real challenge. I know how difficult it is to run this organization but with the board that I have and the support staff that I have, I think that we can make this a really successful entity. It is right now.

TN: Why do you think you were voted back in as president?

JB: Even before this election a couple of people had spoken to me about the possibility of running again. I had made up my mind at the beginning of November that I would make a go of this. And so I went for this and the election outcome was very positive for me.

TN: What is different between now and the last time that you held this position?

JB: One of the things that has really changed is the fact that there is another entity that the Cree Nation Government is trying to create called the Cree Development Corporation and this has been picking up speed.

This is something that is very much going to be in the forefront for us as an organization.

At the same time, the Cree Nation Government has always spoken of the possibility of taking over the funds under the BOC as well as CREECO's assets.

TN: What would be your plan here?

JB: One of the things that I have always said and I think that the Board really backs me here is that we are all for the development of the CDC and that we all understand the need to develop jobs in the communities. This is something that I have always stressed.

This is something that we really need because the growth (and birth) rate is so high in the communities compared to the federal and the provincial growth rates. We are hovering at around 3% where as Canada is around 1% and Quebec is often at around 0%. So, you can see the difference in terms of how many young people we have, we know that we are going to have to find employment for all of those young people.

The CDC, when you look at the overall possibilities of what it is supposed to do, this is one of the things that it can tackle, the local situations with jobs.

We are very supportive of the development of this corporation but the way that it is being proposed, in terms of a takeover of the BOC, is something that we are opposed to.

I am of the opinion that the BOC does not need any fixing in terms of an organization. We still look after the monies in terms of how it was originally envisioned when it was first created so that we can have these monies forever. This is our plan and this is how we look after our investments; with diversified funds and we have a lot of money managers, which is something that is very important for us so that we don't get into trouble when hard times hit the markets.

When you look at CREECO and the subsidiaries, we have made these companies go full circle and become very successful. Every one of these companies made money last year and it looks like they will again this year, they will be in the black.

If you consider where we are with these two organizations, I think that things are very, very good and so for the CDC, why take out a couple of organizations for the creation of one?

I think that we have been involved in the development of economic development for a long time. We have created economic development for our people and created tons of wealth in terms of the monies coming in and out of the companies but more importantly; we have created a lot of jobs and we have created a lot of training for these jobs.

TN: What are the first few issues that you plan on tackling?

JB: Right now I have to carry on with the issues that have been facing the corporations right now and finish out some of the things that were previously started. I am not new to this organization and so I have files that I have to carry out.

I am also tackling a planning session, probably in the next few weeks for CREECO and the other subsidiaries to see where we can improve our companies and to see where we can create more employment.

We also have to look at the BOC in terms of its investments. I will also be setting up a public relations centre for the BOC because there is a lot of misinformation going on at the moment and people have been saying that we are losing a lot of money.

I would really like to show people what we have done over the last 10 years in terms of these investments and also show them where the money was spent.

I am also hoping to visit a lot of the communities.

TN: What do you feel is the biggest obstacle for CREECO/BOC right now?

JB: Well, it is not an obstacle within itself but it is a situation that has been created with the CDC. I am still trying to convince our employees that we need business as usual because this is very important. We have about 400 employees that work for us on a full time basis and so we need to tell them that it is business as usual, that we have to continue that process and that nobody is going to come in and take our companies immediately without our participation.

Any employees being presented with this situation would be at least a little bit leery as they are not sure what is going to happen to them and so this is the situation that we are going to be looking at.

The other situation I will be looking at is our economy, as it is very down right now and this is creating problems for us in terms of possible contracts.

TN: Is there anything else that you would like to add?

JB: Last week, when I was talking to our employees, I said that we have to be very open to whatever situation comes and always keep in mind that the BOC's monies are the people's monies and the people's assets.

"[Developing jobs in the communities] is something that I have always stressed. This is something that we really need because the growth (and birth) rate is so high in the communities compared to the federal and the provincial growth rates. We are hovering at around 3% where as Canada is around 1% and Quebec is often at around 0%."

Bus battle heats up

The Cree School Board tries to enforce contract in court

by Jesse Staniforth

The dispute over school bus contracts between the Cree School Board (CSB) and the Cree Nation of Mistissini reached a new level at year's end, when the CSB filed proceedings in the Quebec Superior Court in Amos against Mistissini.

The CSB's decision to award a single contract for school-bus transportation to Gingras-Shecapio Inc. last summer was a flashpoint for debate. On one side, critics alleged that because the company was formed out of one Cree businessman in partnership with a southern non-Cree transportation corporation, it constituted a threat to Cree livelihoods and local businesses. Supporters of GSI said the company met the requirement for 50% Cree ownership, and noted that Phillip Shecapio and his partners had been providing transportation services within the communities for years.

Mistissini resisted the contract, however. And the CSB wants to enforce its power over school bus contracts.

"The situation here is that the Cree Nation of Mistissini would not issue a permit to Gingras-Shecapio Inc. for school transportation, but the CSB has a five-year contract with GSI for school transportation services in all of the Cree communities," said CSB Director General Abraham Jolly. "In our motion, we ask the court to determine whether our contract is a permit to operate the school transportation service in Mistissini. If the answer to this question is positive, then we ask the court to determine whether GSI meets the requirements of a Mistissini business permit bylaw. We think it does."

He said the decision to award the contract to GSI was based on two factors. In the open call for tenders, it was the only company that offered to provide service to all of the eight Cree communities (minus Whapmagoostui) that needed school transportation. Secondly, GSI offered low rates for its service.

"[Phillip Shecapio] has real experience in bus transportation and other modes of transportation," Jolly said. "From the partnership arrangement that he has [with Gingras] – which goes back to before this contract, the business relationship was already there. With the buses he's able to provide, which are more modern and new, we felt it would be a good service based on the expectations we had of safe and secure transportation for our kids."

But CSB claims Mistissini refused to issue GSI a business permit.

"We met with Mistissini in an effort to resolve the matter at the start of the 2014-15 school year," Jolly said. "Because of jurisdictional issues, they felt they had the authority to give that contract to Transport Petawabano. They saw him as the provider for transportation for Mistissini, because he had the contract previously."

According to CSB chairperson Kathleen Wootton, the debate comes down to one of jurisdiction.

CSB chairperson Kathleen Wootton

"We're asking the court to clarify whether if we [at the CSB] have a contract with a Cree business, that contractor needs a business permit from the Cree Nation," she said.

Wootton said Transport Petawabano operator Tony Petawabano was invited to bid on the contract. "We feel that we followed the protocol for calling for tenders," Wootton insisted. "We think our process was fair."

Jolly emphasized the CSB position that school transportation services is within the mandate of the Cree School Board. "We have an obligation to organize and supervise school transportation in

Mistissini. We have the right to select a provider as well. But the band believes they have the final word on who does business in Mistissini. We agree that the band council can regulate business activities in Mistissini, but at the same time it cannot prevent a contractor selected by the Cree School Board," he argued.

The issue is also a source of dispute in Chisasibi as well, where the band previously operated school transportation within the community.

"GSI is not operating at the moment in Chisasibi," Jolly noted. "But there are conversations happening right now between GSI and Chisasibi, along with ourselves. There was a meeting on this just last week. Things are looking a little more positive to be resolved with Chisasibi."

> **"We feel that we followed the protocol for calling for tenders. We think our process was fair."**

Wootton also noted that she regretted having to resort to legal measures, recognizing that challenging the band council on issues like business permits may open a can of legislative worms that no one really wants to have to deal with.

"We understand the concern for the local Cree economy," Wootton said. "This is a concern in every Cree community, and we share it. We would like to see this matter addressed through a broader consultation process that built consensus on procurement at the local and regional levels."

The Nation tried contacting the Cree Nation of Mistissini for comment, but our calls were not returned at press time.

I SEE THE LINE
WHERE MORE IS POSSIBLE.
SEASON OF DOMINATION
SALES EVENT
2 YEAR FACTORY WARRANTY
IT'S THE SEASON TO DOMINATE ON THE WORLD'S BEST SLEDS. HURRY IN TO YOUR POLARIS® DEALER NOW–LIMITED-TIME OFFER.
2015 MODELS:
144 inch track length at $7,999.
155 inch track length at $8,599.
FIND THEM AT:
Martin Auto Centre
1832, 3e Avenue O. Val-d'Or
819-824-4575
TERRAIN DOMINATION
POLARIS
TerrainDomination.com

CARCANADA

The Car Superstore

Telephone: (613) 489-1212 • Toll Free (888) 241-0211 • www.carcanada.com

5791 Prince of Wales Dr., P.O.Box 489, Manotick, Ontario, K4M 1A5

Monday – Friday : 8:30am – 8:00pm • Saturday: 8:30am – 6:00pm • Sunday: 10-00am – 5:00 pm

NEED a new OR used car?

NEED Financing?

LET OUR FINANCIAL EXPERT KATHY STACK ASSIST YOU

toll free: 1-888-241-0211

ONLINE CREDIT: www.carcanada.com

WE DELIVER TO YOU

OVER 400 NEW AND PRE-OWNED VEHICLES

OPEN 24/7 AT WWW.CARCANADA.COM

USED

2014 DODGE DURANGO LIMITED
AWD Sunroof Heated Leather Rear Dual DVDs
21958 Km
$38,998

2014 FORD FUSION
AWD SE Sunroof and Leather
9843 Km
$24,979

2013 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 WT
19163 Km
$16,999

2014 Ram 1500 Laramie
Air Suspension and Power Sunroof
16470 Km
$41,628

NEW

2015 RAM 1500 LARAMIE
Crew Cab Pickup - Short Bed
MSRP: $ 68,203 - $ 7,000
$61,203

CHRYSLER DODGE Jeep

A time and place for couples

Sweet spots for time away with your love

by Amy German

In a new relationship or looking to appreciate the love of your life by whisking them away to luxurious love nest, St. Valentine's Day is the best excuse to book some couple time.

If you can't get away immediately, presenting him or her with the promise of some future quality time away to celebrate your love can do wonders for a relationship.

Whether your idea of romance is to escape for a weekend to the bush for some quiet traditional time with your love, a night out in the big city to catch a big game, a weekend of sensual indulgence at a spa or a romantic dinner for two somewhere exclusive, showing your love is what matters.

But, if you want something memorable to do that your love will remember for the rest of their lives, there are countless places that are just a car trip away.

Northern Romantic Getaways

Both northern Quebec and Ontario have many options for couple getaways, in either upscale or rustic settings.

For a major change of northern scenery, Timmins, Ontario offers all of the finer things available in a big city without a massive amount of travel time.

And, those hours in the car will pass by relative quickly if you and your love are treating yourselves to a romantic weekend away at the Cedar Meadows Resort & Spa, just outside of the city.

Featuring getaway packages geared at making your tryst incredibly memorable, Cedar Meadows is perfect for the active couple who wants to soup up their together time with a snowmobiling package, unwind with a Nordic spa weekend package, indulge with a spa-and-massage package or just go all out with one of their incredible "Love & Romance" offerings.

A perfect destination for those looking for some together time that can be enhanced with a night on the town, an escape to the cinemas and some much-needed retail therapy.

www.cedarmeadows.com

As the name of this resort suggests, Couples Resort in Whitney, Ontario, is the only hotel in the province devoted to making the most of twosome time.

Voted TripAdvisors #1 Romantic Resort in Ontario, this all-inclusive destination borders Algonquin Park. Couples can enjoy the breathtaking surroundings of the resort and participate in many winter sport activities, including hiking, snowshoeing, dog sledding, ATV outings, skating and cross-country skiing.

Billing itself as "The place where it is Valentine's Every Day," the resort's many rooms feature king-sized beds

AUTOMOBILE BARRAUTE

Your consultant: Yvon St-Pierre
yvonstpierre@barrautechrysler.ca

No. 1 Dealer in Eeyou Istchee.
To fulfill your needs!
819-825-0880

2015 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew

2015 Ram 1500 REBEL

215, 3eme Avenue, Val-d'Or, Quebec • 1-888-250-7081 • www.barrautechrysler.ca

CHRYSLER DODGE RAM Jeep

MNP LLP

Respecting your traditions inspires us to go beyond.

For more than 25 years, MNP has partnered with over 500 Aboriginal communities and professionals throughout Canada to build strong relationships. As the largest national accounting and consulting firm serving Aboriginal organizations, we recognize and respect the role traditional values play in the Cree Nation's planning and decision-making processes.

By gathering insight from those traditions, MNP's Gordon Leebosh is committed to delivering stronger solutions and value-added services that help you and your community prosper.

Contact Gordon Leebosh, CPA, CA at 514.228.775 or gordon.leebosh@mnp.ca

ACCOUNTING › CONSULTING › TAX MNP.ca

Wherever business takes you.

Cedar Meadows Resort & Spa

and large double Jacuzzis in view of wood-burning fireplaces.

There are all kinds of ways to pamper yourself, from spa services to gourmet meals to quiet, cozy time in bed to revel in the splendour of your love. This couples resort does not allow children and doesn't have any meeting rooms, so your down-time together will be uninterrupted by business or brats.

www.couplesresort.ca

On the Quebec side of the north, Rouyn Noranda may not be the first place that comes to mind when looking to stay somewhere enticing to spoil yourself and your significant other. But Hôtel Gouverneur Le Noranda is a great option.

This modern 71-room complex features elegant rooms, a seductive full spa where couples can get massaged, scrubbed, go for a mani-pedi and engage in all sorts of other pampering that might prepare them for a night of love.

Once preened, couples can visit Le Cellier, the hotel's wine bar and restaurant, for a sophisticated night of fine dining by candle-light, before retiring to their room.

www.lenoranda.com/en

Neither is Chicoutimi known as a romantic destination, but this town has its own fine offerings that can suit the needs of both the adventurous couple who is looking for a little alone time or those who want to seek out spoiling on the inside.

For those looking to get the adrenaline going, the Centre de Congrès & Hotel La Saguenéenne offers snowmobiling and ice-fishing packages in the region's breathtaking surroundings. After a day outdoors, this hotel offers up comfortable rooms, fine dining and a tropical-themed pool area while getting ready for romance.

www.lasagueneenne.com

Regional Radio Show on Housing

from the Capital Works and Services Department / Housing and ownership in the Cree Nation

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17, 12:15pm to 12:45pm

ᐋᓇᐯᐣ ᓀᐦᐃᔭᐍᐏᓐ ᓂᑲᓇᐎᓐ
Cree Nation Government
Gouvernement de la Nation Crie
CAPITAL WORKS & SERVICES

YOUR HOST, LAWRENCE P. KATAPATUK, REGIONAL HOUSING PLANNER.

JOIN US ON JBCCS (JAMES BAY CREE COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY) FOR OUR NEXT SHOW.

PRIZES GIVEN DURING SHOW. STAY TUNED!

PETRONOR
www.petronor.ca

Distributor of petroleum products and lubricants in the James Bay Territory.

Services:
- Delivery of petroleum products in bulk
- Aviation fuel
- Rental of movable tanks

Products:
- Unleaded gas, clear and colored diesel, stove oil, Jet-A, 100LL and lubricants.

Addresses:

Radisson Bulk Plant
Tel.: (819) 638-8222
Fax: (819) 638-7107

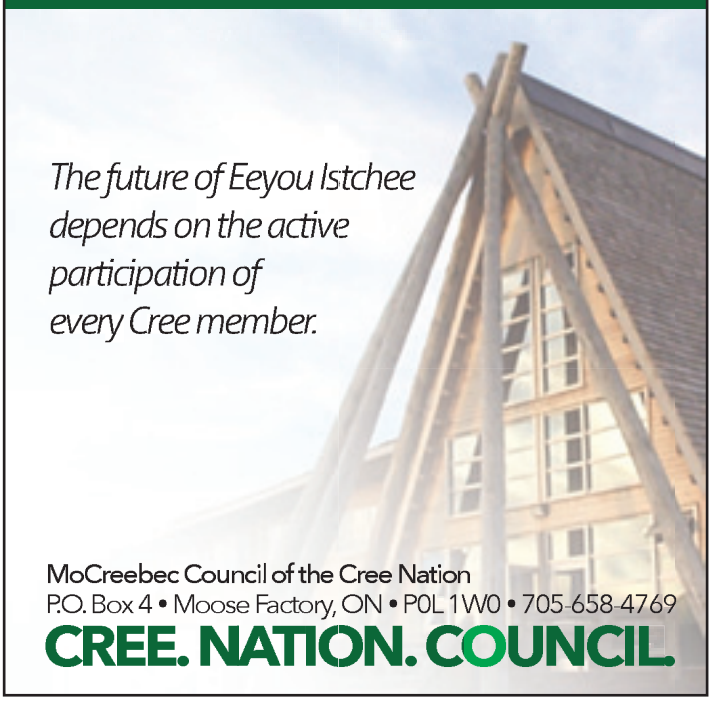
La Grande Rivière Airport
Tel.: 819-638-9104
Fax: 819-354-6825

EM-1 Construction Site
Tel.: (819) 865-2045
Fax: (819) 865-2039
Cell.: (819) 856-0618

Chisasibi Gas Station
Tel.: (819) 855-2427
Fax: (819) 855-3462

Administration office
Tel.: (819) 824-5505
Fax: (819) 824-5420

MOCREEBEC COUNCIL OF THE CREE NATION



MoCreebec Council of the Cree Nation
P.O. Box 4 • Moose Factory, ON • P0L 1W0 • 705-658-4769
CREE. NATION. COUNCIL.

JOHN ABBOTT CEGEP/COLLEGE

WACHIYA!
Achieve your dreams at John Abbott College

John Abbott College (JAC) situated in Montreal, is considered to be the most beautiful campus in the province. Surrounded by nature, the grounds are a blend of trees, water and green spaces.

The College's Aboriginal Student Resource Centre (ASRC) is set up to help Aboriginal students adapt to college life and succeed in their studies. Our students are our top priority and our main objective is for them to enjoy a successful and memorable living and learning experience while at CEGEP.

Whether for personal guidance, tutoring, studying, using the computers and printers, or simply dropping in to relax and meet other students, the Aboriginal Student Resource Centre is the place to be.

To all those who are thinking about going to college, remember: a solid preparation, being committed and motivated to success, and taking a genuine interest in the program you chose will certainly get you far.

****

New Aboriginal Studies Certificate
• Get a "Value-Added" Diploma •

Certificate programs are offered to JAC students as a supplement to their existing program of study. To obtain the Aboriginal Studies Certificate, which is given out at graduation, students choose six courses from a designated list of courses that relate to Aboriginal cultures, as part of their regular program.

The Aboriginal Studies Certificate is of interest to all students, whether they are Aboriginal or of any other ethnic origin. It will provide you with an awareness of the important contribution Aboriginal people make in national and global contexts. It will also allow for a better understanding of the values and dignity of Aboriginal people everywhere.

For more information about this new certificate visit **www.johnabbott.qc.ca/aboriginalstudies.**

Phone Number: 514 457-6610 ext. 5824 · Fax Number: 514 457-4730
suite 21, 275 Lakeshore Road, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, Québec H9X 3L9

If modern pleasures are more what you seek, Hotel Le Montagnais offers the big hotel experience and features a wide variety of activities that can keep a whole family occupied. This may allow you and your spouse to escape for a bit of alone time while grandma or grandpa watches the young ones.

Featuring a health centre, an indoor water park, playroom, gym, resto-bar, nightclub and the biggest health spa in the Saguenay region, this hotel is a delight.

With executive and "royal" suites for those who want to make the most out of their time in their rooms, this hotel has accommodations that feature all kinds of treats and goodies including king-sized beds.

lemontagnais.qc.ca/e

Hotel Forestel

Val-d'Or

The "Sin City" of the north has all kinds of ways to romance your one and only.

If you are looking to go glamorous, Hotel l'Escale Suites offers ready-to-order packages that can accommodate couples that love fine dining or need some spa pampering.

For the couple looking to wine and dine, the VIP package includes a luxury suite, drinks at the bar, a five-course "gastronomic dinner," breakfast at the hotel's restaurant or served in the suite.

Or, for the couple in need of deep relaxation, l'Escale offers an indulgent spa package that features a spectacular suite, a complete thermal circuit at the spa with a Hammam steam bath, the Finnish sauna, the Infra-red sauna, a hydro-massage, a Nordic shower and a 60-minute massage.

www.lescale.qc.ca/en/packages

Featuring newly renovated rooms, the Hotel Forestel's "Escape" package offers fine dining and relaxation in one of the hotel's new "loft" rooms. This package also includes a special three-course dinner and a meal at the breakfast buffet.

www.forestel.ca

Outside your hotel Val-d'Or offers up all sorts of fine eateries and activities.

Bar Bistro L'Entracte features sophistication and gourmet delights. With a menu boasting tapas, sushi, quiches from around the world and other standard carnivorous fare, this hot spot features live music and entertainment.

www.barbistrolentracte.com

If you are looking for something new, Val-d'Or has the Windsor, a lovely new bistro that celebrates French cuisine. The perfect place to cuddle up for some cassoulet, steak or tantalizing tartar, the Windsor is fine French cuisine that will truly stimulate the senses.

www.facebook.com/Windsor-Restaurant

For those looking to stir up their passion by first stirring up their adrenaline or simply enjoying couple time by going out for a couple's skate date, Val-d'Or has a wide variety of indoor and outdoor skating rinks for your active date.

tourismevaldor.com

Canada is Golden at Junior Hockey!

David Pluta, CPA auditor, CA, Senior Manager, BDO Canada LLP, dpluta@bdo.ca

On January 5th, 2015 Canada won its 16th World Junior Hockey title after five years without gold. Will we see another five years golden streak like we saw from 2005 to 2009 and 1993 to 1997? Only time will tell but I am proud to announce that BDO Canada LLP ("BDO") has signed on to be a major sponsor of the World Juniors Hockey Championship and the official accounting firm of the tournament.

As most Canadian young boys, I saw myself one day scoring the overtime game-winning goal in a Gold Medal Game or Game 7 of the Stanley Cup Finals! Although I had to put on ice the dream of becoming a professional hockey player, I was inspired to pursue a career as an accountant where I could apply the same discipline and values in order to one day become a partner in a top league audit firm.

Dreaming doesn't make an outstanding hockey player, but hard work, practice, skill, and dedication do. With that in mind and more than 10 years of experience in audit and accounting, I have had the privilege of being recently appointed Senior Manager at BDO, the 5th largest accounting firm in the world.

My journey within corporate Canada was not unlike the journey into the NHL of the famous Cree hockey player, Jonathan Cheechoo. As a member of the Moose Cree First Nation, Cheechoo was drafted 29th overall in 1998 but finally played his first NHL game in 2002 for the San Jose Sharks. Hired at BDO Canada in 2003, I also had to prove my worth, and finally became a CPA in 2006.

My progression as a junior, then senior accountant took another five years before being promoted to audit manager, or to compare it with Cheechoo's world, being hired as a coach of the hockey team. However, unlike most hockey players who become coaches later on in their career, I didn't have to retire from playing!

Today, my role as Senior Manager at BDO Canada is comparable to that of Head Coach for an NHL team. I train my players (hockey practices), develop an audit strategy (offensive and defensive strategies) and schedule the team for each mandate (setting lineups for each game). Our success on each mandate is directly correlated to how we perform as a team. And sometimes, just like PK Subban, I have had to bench a player (provide constructive criticism) so that they can improve their game as an accountant. Other times, like Michel Therrien, I have had to motivate the troops and get them back on track, and even I am answerable to partners and the managing partner (General Manager and Owner).

At BDO, we never forget that we must earn and deserve the trust of our clients, the businesses across the country we serve and value, just like hockey teams and their stars need to build and maintain the loyalty of their fans. In any company, as in sports, respect, team spirit, leadership and attention to client satisfaction are key to progress and continued success.

Vince Lombardi said it best: "*Individual commitment to a group effort - that's what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.*"

Everyone has their source of inspiration. In my mind, hockey teaches the importance of dedication, commitment, sacrifice and a strong work ethic. At BDO, we share these values and I believe that's what sets us apart as veteran players in the accounting league!

Other similarities:

Jonathan Cheechoo	David Pluta
Has a road named after him in his home town: Jonathan Cheechoo Drive	Has his name on the door of his office
Has made more than $13 million dollars	Wishes to make more than $13 million dollars
6 ft 0 tall	6ft 2 tall

Jean J. Bélanger, CPA, CA•EJC, EEE, CFE
Anthony Marinelli, CPA, CA
Mina Farinacci, CPA, CA
Mario Torre, CPA, CA

Assurance | Accounting | Tax | Advisory

514 931 0841 | 1 800 319 4933
www.bdo.ca

Proud to support:

IIHF 2015 WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP CANADA Toronto - Montreal

IIHF 2016 ICE HOCKEY WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP CANADA Kamloops

BDO

Mont Tremblant

Love in the Laurentians

One of Quebec's most gorgeous regions celebrated for its spectacular ski slopes, luxurious lakes, picturesque settings and sophisticated tourist attractions, the Laurentians will impress your love with an alpine wonderland.

St. Sauveur is a sweet little honey pot. Look no further than the Hotel Manoir St- Sauveur for all sorts of sweet packages that will get you from the slopes to dinner to bed and back again in a blizzard of multi-sensory pleasures.

Packages at this hotel-resort can include a divine dinner at the hotel's l'Ambiance restaurant, cocktails at Bar Le Boudoir, spa treatments at Spa Du Manoir, shopping and a night on the town or relaxing at the hotel's outdoor hot tub, indoor pool, sauna and steam bath. With spectacular rooms to lounge and love in, this escape may just be the perfect spot to oil the wheels of your marriage or establish the foundations of a new relationship.

manoir-saint-sauveur.com

If you prefer the upscale party atmosphere of Mont Tremblant, check out the Fairmont Hotel's spectacular Romantic Escape Package. The romantic experience includes a bottle of a sparkling wine served with strawberries in a white- and dark-chocolate tuxedo by the hotel's pastry chef as well as a 50-minute duo-massage treatment at Amerispa.

With beautiful rooms and brilliant landscapes, the Fairmount is the place to book a ski trip of a lifetime, soak in the hotel's year-round outdoor hot tubs, try your luck at the casino or to dine in luxury at either the hotel's restaurants or one of Tremblant's many famous eateries.

www.fairmont.com/tremblant
www.mont-tremblant.ca

For that getaway where nobody will find you, the Hotel Mont Gabriel in St-Adele has loads of charm.

Accommodations feature classical logwood construction, some with a natural stone fireplace. This hotel-spa-resort is ideal for those who love to hit the slopes as well as wine and dine in a warm and romantic setting.

With packages for romantic meals and deals for the slopes as well as a full spa to get you feeling your best for love, this resort is a destination to put aside your burdens.

www.montgabriel.com

Hydlo and FRIENDS Online

Tracking moose

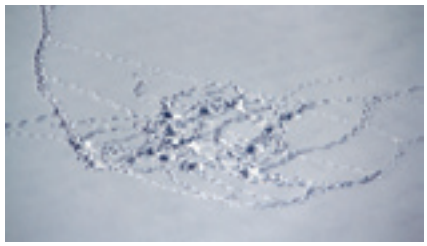
E Mitihtimûwânuwihch

A new video at **www.hydloandfriends.com**

Philip Neeposh, tallyman.

Rose Wapachee, technician.

Looking at the map before flying over the territory.



Tracking woodland caribou.

Since the partial diversion of the Rivière Rupert, wildlife has had to adapt to new habitats. A team flies over the river and diversion bays to study the presence of moose. Listen to explanations from tallymen Philip Neeposh and Matthew Iserhoff and technician Rose Wapachee. You will also see stunning aerial views of the Eeyou Istchee territory.

To watch the video, visit
www.hydloandfriends.com

Each month, a new video will be added to www.hydloandfriends.com. To learn more, listen to the Hydlo and Friends radio show on JBCCS. Its hosts, Luke MacLeod and Luc Duquette, discuss the environmental follow-up activities related to the Eastmain-1-A/Sarcelle/Rupert project, as well as the concerns of land users with regard to Hydro-Québec's facilities and activities.

Next show:
Wednesday, February 11,
at 8:00 a.m.

The Chateau Montebello

Montebello

This classic Quebec chateau experience epitomizes country elegance and Old World charm.

Nestled away in the Outouais region between Montreal and Ottawa, the Chateau Montebello is a CAA/AAA Four Diamond Award destination. The historic town is where many prominent Montrealers built their vacation homes and an industry of fabulous restaurants, galleries and golf courses sprang up to cater to their needs.

Known as a paradise for golfers, lovers of winter activities, pleasure seekers, swimmers, spa aficionados (the spa in this hotel made it on to Spa Awards list of the 50 top spas in Canada), this hotel is a magical haven for those in desperate need of a getaway.

Couples wanting a romantic getaway can purchase a package that includes a one or two night stay with a 60-minute romantic massage for two at their brand-new spa, incredible table d'hôte dining at the Aux Chantignoles Restaurant, breakfast either in your room or at the buffet as well as fancy perks such as chocolate-covered strawberries in your room. Or you can build your own experience by booking a seductive day at the spa, a cozy horse-drawn sleigh ride or an incredible gastronomic experience at one of the nearby eateries.

www.fairmont.com/montebello

New Gunsmith on location at Nord-Select!
Distribution
Nord-Select
HUNTING • FISHING • GENERAL STORE • FURNITURE
Matagami: 4 rue Nottaway 819-739-3883
Radisson: 37A Desgroseillers 819-638-3200
marc-andre@nord-select.qc.ca Delivery to James Bay - C.O.D.

Quebec City

The Hotel Chateau Laurier is a great choice since it does all of the research you need for an exceptional stay.

Featuring a deluxe room with a stunning view of the Plains of Abraham, port, chocolate, wine, massages, a horse-drawn carriage ride and spectacular dining experiences, the Chateau makes for an unforgettable romantic experience. This package is all about leaving the planning up to someone else so that you can focus on each other.

www.hotelchateaulaurier.com

The Nation has gone digital.
Go Online to Access Even More of The Nation!
Past & Current Issues
Free PDFs of the Magazine
Breaking News Stories
Contests & Prize Giveaways
Exclusive Articles
Facebook.com/NationNewsMagazine
@NationNewsMag
NationNews.ca
the Nation ONLINE
More News. More Nation.
slide to get The Nation online

Wendake

Adjacent to Quebec City is a First Nations reserve that takes tourism to new heights with its Hotel Museum, Canada's premier Aboriginal-themed boutique hotel.

Featuring First Nations architecture and design elements, this hotel is ultra-modern but designed to bring in the beauty of the outdoors with glass, wood, skins and furs throughout the building while still keeping with a traditional longhouse-inspired design.

This chic shop-and-stay experience offers original crafts, an educational museum and relaxation at Centre Nation-Santé Spa with culturally inspired treatments. You can also dine at the Indigenous inspired restaurant, La Traite, and then retire to your comfortable room or suite.

With a wide variety of packages for love and romance, cultural learning and outdoor activities, this boutique hotel experience is an absolute treat.

www.tourismewendake.ca

Montreal's Ritz Carlton

Montreal's Magnificent Marvels

For big-city sophistication, great food, wine and accommodations in an establishment renowned for its glamour and glory, the Ritz-Carlton is a true high-end destination just identified as the top hotel in Canada.

Montreal's Ritz may cost an arm and a leg, but its world-class luxury will make a statement to the person you are trying to impress. The hotel features one of the city's best French restaurants, Maison Boulud, and offers an experience that simply cannot be paralleled with marble bathrooms, luxurious beds and Old World charm. The Ritz attracts royalty, celebrities, world leaders and the super rich, so why not you?

www.ritzmontreal.com

For an exotic and unique spa experience, you cannot beat Bota Bota, a converted boat moored in Montreal's Old Port that has become one of the city's hottest spas.

Those looking to feel invigorated can enjoy the Nordic Baths "water circuit" to raise and lower your body temperature, purging all of the bad and stretching out to relax luxuriously.

With a wide variety of massage and body treatments and a full-service restaurant, a day at Bota Bota says I love you in so many ways.

www.botabota.ca

As there is no other city in the world quite like Montreal when it when it comes to fine dining, an exquisite meal on the town is a must. But what might please one palate may not be as enticing to the next. While some of you may have hit Mr. Ma's while in Montreal for that magical meal, others look forward to a night out at Queue de Cheval.

But there are so many choices when looking for something new and spectacular. L'Express, Joe Beef, Public House and Toqué offer out-of-this-world options for an incredible, romantic meal that you will never forget. With hundreds of restaurants in Montreal, check out this blog as it informs you what's good and why.

http://montreal.eater.com/maps

For something simple that won't blow the budget and offers relief from the cold, why not go for a romantic stroll through the city's Botanical Gardens?

Featuring room upon room devoted to various types of climates and foliage, visiting the Botanical Gardens is like taking a vacation within a vacation as you can experience many different kinds of environments.

The perfect place to stroll hand in hand while enjoying exotic scents, the Botanical Gardens can be a wonderfully romantic escape to bask in the glow of your love, be it brand new or built upon decades of commitment.

espacepourlavie.ca/en/botanical-garden

Happy Valentine's Day!

LAST CHANCE!

NISKAMOON CORPORATION

ENROL IN THE TEHQ PROGRAM'S FINAL CLASS!

WORDS FROM TECHNICAL EMPLOYMENT WITH HYDRO-QUÉBEC (TEHQ) STUDENT!

Lorne-James Sam, from Chisasibi

2nd year student in the *Automated Systems Electro-Mechanics Program*

What made you enrol?

To have a better job. I worked in construction before and all I did was seasonal jobs.

What are the highlights?

The best thing about this school is that you learn new things every day. You can make your own tools in class. Last year we all made hammers for ourselves. Working with electricity is fun too, and trouble shooting everything.

What happens after you graduate?

I'm looking forward to working with Hydro-Québec. Hopefully, I live a healthy life and work as long as I can.

How has this program changed you?

I live differently and look at life in a different way now. I've adapted to living in a small town and have a worker's way of life. I'm more responsible and independent.

Any last advice?

I want to tell the high school kids to stay in school and earn your diploma so that you can have a better job!

This is the LAST CHANCE to enrol in the TEHQ Program!

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 1, 2015

Contact: Andrea Kitchen, Admin & Recruitment Coordinator, CSB - Niskamoon Program
1-877-441-1101 / andrea.kitchen@cscree.qc.ca OR your Niskamoon Local Coordinator

2 Lakeshore Road,
Nemaska, Québec J0Y 3B0
www.niskamoon.org

NISKAMOON CORPORATION

"Have fun!"

Montreal's annual sex salon was all about broadening your sexual horizons

by Joshua Grant

Le Salon de l'Amour et de la Séduction or, under its slightly less romantic moniker, the "Everything to do with Sex Show," came of age with its 21st edition January 16-18 at Montreal's Place Bonaventure. Needless to say it was a hot and steamy affair. Over the course of three days the Sex Show offered art, spectacle, performance, educational seminars from renowned "sexologists" and a wide array of products more or less related to sex.

The advertised goal of the organizers is to "enhance your sex life, relationships and general well being."

Over 100 exhibitors from Canada and the U.S. presented their wares at the Sex Show, offering the thousands of attendees special discounts and package deals on anything and everything: a whole spectrum of wood, steel and glass dildos, innovative and stimulating sex toys, beauty products, vacation packages, swinger cruises, erotic chocolate, bamboo pillows, massages, haircuts, tattoos, piercings, lingerie and smoking paraphernalia.

A few "exhibitionists" chuckled at the tenuous links to sexuality being claimed by some of the companies posted up in the show room. For instance, the art area boasted tattoo and piercing artists, fire-eaters and an exhibit selling furs, skulls, rodent skeletons and embalmed snakes. A psychic offered palm readings and a table in the well-being section featured a line of cooking products.

"I guess they say a way to a man's heart is through his belly," laughed Cherilyn Sperling, a reservations specialist promoting the all-inclusive nudist resort "Hedonism II" in Negril, Jamaica.

Wandering through the dimly lit aisles of the Salon de l'Amour, it was clear that the organizers catered to all types of sexual preference, taste and proclivity. It was also an opportunity to venture outside one's comfort zone and try something new.

Aside from the main stage hosting a cycle of live shows, there was the kink corner with demonstrations of bondage, domination and sadomasochism (BDSM). The erotic art area featured ongoing and completed works while massages, nutritional advice and a cuddle corner were available in the well-being zone. A burlesque stage was busy with regular performances. The intellectually inclined, meanwhile, crowded the seminar room for a program of renowned speakers on sexuality.

The most refreshing aspect of the event was the friendly and playful open-mindedness demonstrated by attendees. It's not very often one has the chance to interact with porn stars, sexologists, burlesque dancers, erotic artists, massage therapists, male and female models, dominatrices, travel agents and party planners – all in the same room. While the sheer amount of sex toys, cracking whips and graphic pornography could render some people uncomfortable, the overall vibe was one of curiosity, sensuality and excitement.

On the main stage, three rotating shows attracted throngs of people with elements of audience participation. Les Garçons Sculpteurs, who offered haircuts and styling services, put on a fashion show twice a day lead by Yannick Daigle and his teams of hair stylists promising a universe of "Sex, Hair and Burlesque."

Seminar speakers from top left, Dr. Jessica O'Reilly, Carlyle Jansen, Dr. Laurie Betito and Frank Mondeoso.tif

The Canadian Sexy Males troupe displayed a series of masculine dance routines that put a handful of audience members brave enough to take the stage in some seriously compromising positions – much to the laughter and delight of onlookers. Quick to doff their police uniforms, cowboy vests and ripped jeans – even coming close to removing their boxer briefs – the Sexy Males had chiseled bodies, handsome faces and loads of confidence. Their writhing and grinding, combined with humour, audience participation and pounding music was especially appreciated by the

SURVEYING AND TOPOGRAPHY

- CONDUCT FIELD SURVEYS AND OPERATE INSTRUMENTS
- DETERMINE PRECISE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS
- PREPARE DETAILED DRAWINGS, CHARTS AND PLANS AND SURVEY NOTES AND REPORTS

✓ *Starting date to be confirmed*

✓ *Waswanipi* ✓ *1800 hours*

BE A MODERN EXPLORER, SURVEY THE EARTH

ᐃᓕᓴᐍ ᒋᔭᐱᒪᓗᐃᑦ
Cree School Board
Commission Scolaire Crie

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL EDUCATION CONSULTANT
OR CALL 1-866-921-4040

WWW.CSBSAES.CA

ᓴᓕᐢᑐᐧᐃᓐ ᒪᓇᐃᓄ ᒋᔭᑕᒪᐃᑦ
Sabtuan Adult Education Services
Service de l'éducation des adultes Sabtuan

Portrait artists Denis Jacques in action in the art section

female demographic and amplified the already thick sexual tension.

The pièce de résistance was an erotic circus featuring trapeze artist Mélodie Couture, pole dancer Eloise Star and locally renowned burlesque dancer Lady Josephine.

Couture performed an impressive array of stunts – swinging, flipping and delicately balancing on the trapeze while managing to remove most of her clothes in the process. Eloise Star, Quebec's champion pole dancer in 2013, graced the stage with her skill and physical prowess, twirling at dizzying speeds, swinging her body up, down and around, and balancing in all sorts of difficult positions.

Each version of the erotic circus ended with Lady Josephine's provocative burlesque number. It's a blend of refined sexuality, tantalizing choreography and the sudden removal of various parts of her costume. As a burlesque master, Lady Josephine exudes mystery, sensuality, confidence and class.

By far the most interesting element of the Salon de l'Amour was the sexual education seminars presented each day by four accomplished speakers and sexologists: Dr. Laurie Betitio, Carlyle Jansen, Dr. Jessica O'Reilly and Frank Mondeose. Informal and informative, these conferences covered a range of topics, including a guide to providing proper fellatio and cunnilingus, the secrets to finding the G spot and achieving female ejaculation, the pleasures of anal sex and a crash course on how to bridge the gap between sexuality and spirituality.

Psychologist Laurie Betito is a specialist in sexual therapy and a well-known Montreal radio personality (check her out at www.drlaurie.com). She focused on the older crowd with her presentation, insisting sex doesn't come with an expiration date. She discussed the research, methods and experiences in her book, *Better Sex After 50*. According to Betito, you can have your best sex in the second half of your life, so long as you are willing to make time for proper foreplay and experiment with certain erogenous zones that may have been neglected in younger years. She also recommends trying new toys and forms of stimulation.

Toronto-based Carlyle Jansen and Jessica O'Reilly had engaging speaking styles, interacting well with the crowd while relating their tips and tricks to leading a healthy sex life. Jansen's two seminars targeted the G spot, female ejaculation and unlocking the hidden pleasures of anal intercourse. Her most important advice to get to the G-sport during intercourse is to "pull before pushing and always aim for the belly button."

"Dr. Jess" gave two sessions – one entitled Oral Sex for Him and the other, naturally, Oral Sex for Her. O'Reilly recommends starting foreplay slowly and gradually ramping up, practicing things like "breath kisses" where you move your lips as close to your partner's body as you can without actually touching their skin. She also stressed that it is crucial to "really show your partner that you mean it" and suggested exploring certain sensitive areas of the body that many people are unaware of, like the collarbone, the philthrum (above the upper lip), lower back and inner thighs. The two speakers also shared specific finger and mouth movement such as the "come hither", the "windshield wiper", the "cross your fingers" and the "lip lock", all gleaned over years of sexual consultation and therapy. Check out their online advice at www.carlylejansen.com and www.sexwithdrjess.com.

Le Salon de l'Amour et de la Séduction returns to Montreal around the same time next year, but don't wait until then to start broadening your sexual horizons. Express your desires, communicate with your partner(s), practice safe sex and most importantly, says Jansen, "Have fun!"

The taste of Toronto

Recipes from Hogtown's finest chefs

by Amy German

For a cookbook featuring some of the most enticing recipes that Toronto has to offer, look no further than Amy Rosen's *Toronto Cooks: 100 Signature Recipes from the City's Best Restaurants.*

This diverse collection showcases many of the city's top chefs and highlights their most popular dishes.

These recipes will help you create orginal appetizers like Salt Cod Doughnuts or Spicy Meatballs. There are soups and salads that will have your guests talking for weeks including the Lentil Soup with Pita Croutons and Lemon or the Waldorf Slaw. Try marvelous mains such as the Dinner Brisket, Oxley Fish Pie or Sticky Bison Short Ribs. To top off the meal there is the Chocolate Pecan Buttercream Cake or Confetti Cookies.

Whether you are seeking inspiring meals for your home dining or a guide to the interesting cuisine that Toronto has to offer, *Toronto Cooks* is an entertaining read and a great education. Plus, if you are planning to visit Toronto, it will help you decide where to dine in Canada's biggest city.

Below is just a sampling of what this extraordinary collection of recipes has to offer.

Salt Cod Doughnuts

Appetizer

Makes 1 dozen

Salt Cod

½ lb salt cod
2 cups milk (approx.)
2 bay leaves
1 sprig fresh thyme
2 cloves garlic
½ small onion

pickle mayo

1 cup mayonnaise
½ cup chopped dill pickles

Choux Pastry

½ cup water
3 tbsp unsalted butter
½ tsp salt
Zest and juice of ½ lemon, divided
½ cup plus 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
2 eggs
2 tbsp chopped fresh dill
3 cups grapeseed oil

Salt cod – Place the cod in a large bowl with enough cold water to cover it completely. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate for a minimum of 24 hours, changing the water at least twice, until the fish is spongy in texture and desalted. Drain and discard the water.
Place the soaked cod in a large saucepan with enough milk just to cover. Add bay leaves, thyme, garlic and onion. Bring to a boil and simmer for 3 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer cod to a bowl and set aside to cool slightly. Using a fork, mash into small pieces.
Set aside.

Pickle mayo – In a bowl combine mayonnaise and dill pickles. Refrigerate until needed.

Pastry – In a medium saucepan over medium heat, bring water, butter, salt and lemon zest to a boil. Reduce heat and add flour, stirring constantly until the mixture forms a ball (this should take only a couple of minutes). Transfer to the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Allow to cool for 3 to 4 minutes, then mix on low speed, incorporating the eggs one at a time (each egg should be fully incorporated before adding the next).

In a bowl, using a wet spoon (so ingredients don't stick together too much), combine equal parts salt cod and choux pastry. (Keep any leftover cod for future recipes – chef Stephen likes to mix it into his scrambled eggs.) Stir in dill and lemon juice. Check the seasoning and adjust with salt, pepper, and lemon juice to taste.
Using a spoon, scoop mounds (about 2 tbsp each) of the mixture onto parchment paper that has been brushed with oil. Moisten your finger and make a hole in each to form a doughnut shape.

In a high-sided frying pan over medium heat, heat oil until hot but not smoking. Reduce heat slightly and fry doughnuts for 2 to 3 minutes on each side. Transfer to a wire rack and sprinkle lightly with salt.
Serve with pickle mayo for dipping.

Sticky Bison Short Ribs with Waldorf Slaw and Gaufrette Potatoes

Serves 4-6

Short Ribs

¾ cup plus 1 tbsp pure maple syrup
¾ cup plus 1 tbsp soy sauce
1 tbsp chopped chipotle peppers
2 tbsp sweet paprika
1 tbsp coriander seeds
1 tbsp fennel seeds
1 tbsp dried thyme
¾ tsp cayenne pepper
¾ tsp ground allspice
¾ tsp ground cinnamon
2½ tsp salt
½ tbsp freshly ground black pepper
1 cup packed brown sugar
5 lbs bison short ribs
Cold water

Waldorf Slaw

½ head celeriac, julienned
1 green apple, julienned
1 cup green seedless grapes, halved vertically
½ bunch fresh flat-leaf parsley leaves
1 tsp lemon zest
Squeeze of fresh lemon juice
½ cup homemade or good-quality mayonnaise
½ cup toasted walnuts
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

Short ribs – In a bowl, combine maple syrup, soy sauce, and chipotle. Set aside.

In a separate large bowl, combine paprika, coriander seeds, fennel seeds, thyme, cayenne, allspice, cinnamon, salt, pepper and sugar. Add ribs and rub with mixture. Apply maple syrup-soy mixture to ribs. Cover and refrigerate for 48 hours.

Remove ribs from refrigerator and set aside for 1 hour at room temperature.

Preheat oven to 375°F.

Place ribs in a Dutch oven or roasting pan. Add enough cold water to just cover ribs. On the stove, over low heat, slowly bring to a simmer. Cover lightly with parchment paper, then cover tightly with aluminum foil or a tight-fitting lid. Cook in preheated oven for 2 to 2 ½ hours, or until meat just falls off the bone. Remove from oven and set aside to cool slightly, then refrigerate in cooking liquid overnight.

Remove ribs from liquid and set aside. Strain cooking liquid into a saucepan. Cook over medium-high heat until reduced by three quarters.

Set aside.

Slaw – In a large bowl, combine celeriac, apple, grapes and parsley. Add lemon zest and juice.

Lightly dress with mayonnaise, toss with walnuts, and season with salt and pepper.

Confetti Cookies

Makes 10-15

Birthday Cake Crumb
(Makes enough for two batches)
½ cup granulated sugar
1½ tbsp tightly packed light brown sugar
¾ cup cake flour
½ tsp baking powder
½ tsp kosher salt
2 tbsp rainbow sprinkles
¼ cup grapeseed oil
1 tbsp clear or pure vanilla extract
Cookies
16 tbsp (2 sticks) butter, at room temperature
1½ cups granulated sugar
2 tbsp glucose (or 1 tbsp corn syrup)
2 eggs
2 tsp clear or pure vanilla extract
2½ cups all-purpose flour
2/3 cup milk powder
2 tsp cream of tartar
1 tsp baking powder
1¼ tsp kosher salt
¼ cup rainbow sprinkles
½ recipe Birthday Cake Crumb

Confetti Cookies

Birthday cake crumb – Preheat oven to 300°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or Silpat.

In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, mix granulated and brown sugars, flour, baking powder, salt, and sprinkles on low speed until well combined. Add oil and vanilla and mix well (the wet ingredients will act as glue to help the dry ingredients form small clusters; continue mixing until that happens).

Drop clusters on prepared baking sheet. Bake in preheated oven for 20 minutes, breaking up clusters occasionally. The crumbs should be slightly moist to the touch (they will dry and harden as they cool). Remove from oven and cool completely on baking sheet before using in a recipe (or scarfing by the handful). The crumbs will keep fresh for 1 week in an airtight container at room temperature or for 1 month in the fridge or freezer.

Cookies – Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper. In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream together butter, sugar, and glucose on medium-high speed for 2 to 3 minutes, stopping to scrape down the sides of the work bowl as needed. Add eggs and vanilla and beat for 7 to 8 more minutes.

(Don't skimp on this 10-minute process – the batter should be really fluffy and pale.) Reduce speed to low and add flour, milk powder, cream of tartar, baking powder, salt, and rainbow sprinkles. Mix just until dough comes together, no longer than 1 minute. (Do not walk away during this step, or you risk overmixing the dough.) Scrape down the sides of the work bowl

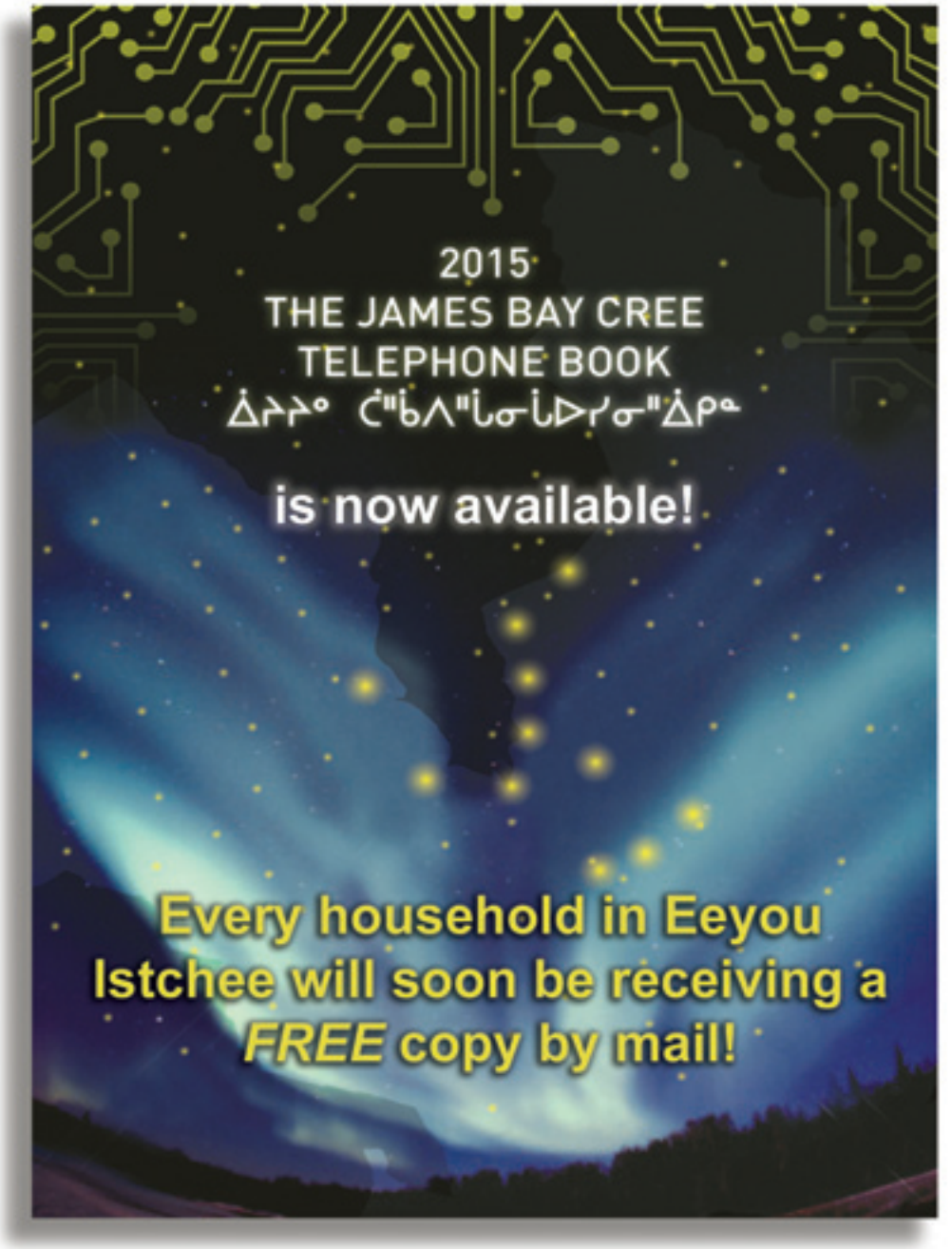
with a spatula. With mixer still on low speed, add birthday cake crumbs and mix just until incorporated, about 30 seconds.

Using a 23/4-oz ice cream scoop (or a 1/3-cup measure), portion out dough onto prepared baking sheet. Pat the tops of the cookie dough domes flat. Wrap the baking sheet tightly

in plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 1 hour, or up to 1 week. (Do not bake cookies from room temperature – they will not bake properly.)

Preheat oven to 375°F.

Arrange chilled cookies a minimum of 4 inches apart on parchment- or Silpat-lined baking sheets. Bake one pan at a time on the middle rack in preheated oven for 18 minutes (the cookies will puff, crackle, and spread). After 18 minutes, the cookies should be very lightly browned on the edges and golden brown on the bottom. The centres will show just the beginning signs of colour. Leave the cookies in the oven for an additional minute or so if they don't match this description or still seem pale and doughy on the surface. Remove from oven and cool completely on the baking sheets. Repeat with second pan. The cookies will keep in an airtight container for 5 days at room temperature or for 1 month in the freezer.



To order additional copies, please email
beesum@beesum-communications.com

Price: $25.00 plus shipping and handling ($16.00)

Beesum
communications
We put First Nations needs first.

Motor mania

The 2015 Montreal International Auto Show

story and photos by Alexander Reid

Automotive companies flexed their muscle cars at the 47th edition of the Montreal International Auto Show (MIAS) at the Palais des Congrès January 16-25.

Naturally, the auto show dedicated two neon-lit gallery rooms to custom car junkies, luring them in with hot chicks draped over vintage cars featuring mind-blowing mods. Highlighting the skills of local custom shops, these galleries contained obscene exhibits of tricked-out cars. We're talking souped-up everything, from Civics to Lamborghinis to the classic Trans-Am.

For new vehicles, the latest tech trends and what the industry has in store, the MIAS had something appealing for everyone. As the first major Canadian city of the year to host an international auto show, Montreal is often the place where the biggest names in the industry unveil their latest models. This year featured three North American premieres and 41 Canadian premieres.

Honda had a sporty subcompact SUV crossover, the 2016 Honda HR-V. The 2016 HR-V aims to take the growing niche of subcompact SUVs by storm, with Honda executives promising a more comfortable ride and higher cargo volume capacity than the competition, as well as best-in-class fuel economy. It will be interesting to see whether the HR-V can live up to the considerable hype when it hits U.S. and Canadian markets this spring.

The long-awaited 2016 Mazda2 was one of three cars to make their North American debut at this year's MIAS, and of those three the Mazda2 is the only one to

Board of Compensation & CREECO

Announcement

Chairman of the CNG Board of Compensation and President of CREECO

The CNG Board of Compensation is pleased to announce that **Mr. Jack R. Blacksmith** was elected as the Chairman of the Board of Compensation at their meeting held on December 18, 2014. This election also means that Mr. Blacksmith takes on the position of President for The Cree Regional Economic Enterprises Company Inc. (CREECO).

Mr. Blacksmith has served the Board of Compensation and CREECO for over 20 years, which includes 11 years as Chairman/President and he has many years of work experience in economic development throughout various local, regional and national organizations.

The coordinates of the Chairman and President:
Email: jblacksmith@boc-creeco.ca

Vice-Chairman of the CNG Board of Compensation

The CNG Board of Compensation is also pleased to announce that Mr. John Shem was elected as the new Vice-Chairman of the Board of Compensation at the meeting held on December 18, 2014.

Mr. Shem is a representative from Whapmagoostui and has been with the Board of Compensation since January 2014.

The coordinates of the Vice-Chairman:
Email: jshem@boc-creeco.ca

Board of Compensation & CREECO
203 Opemiska Meskino, P.O. Box 1166
OUJE-BOUGOUMOU (QC) G0W 3C0

Telephone: 418-745-3931
Fax: 418-745-3844

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: Executive Assistant to the Chairperson/President (Contractual) Location: Ouje-Bougoumou (QC)
Period: Starting February 2015 to December 2016

The Board of Compensation and the Cree Regional Economic Enterprises Company (CREECO) Inc. are currently seeking an experienced individual for the position of Executive Assistant to the Chairperson/President. Under the supervision of the Chairperson/President, the Executive Assistant is responsible for receiving and dispatching all communications as well as performing clerical, secretarial and technical functions for the office of the Chairperson/President.

****For a complete copy of the posting, please contact the office or via www.creeco.ca****

Please forward application with curriculum vitae on or before February 13, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. to:
Jack R. Blacksmith, Chairperson/President, Board of Compensation/CREECO
203 Opemiska Meskino, Box 1166, Ouje-Bougoumou (QC) G0W 3C0
Or via email to the Office Manager at emark@boc-creeco.ca

Toyota's 2014 hybrid racecar, the TS030

have moved beyond the "concept" phase. A subcompact with a redesigned exterior and improved weight distribution scheme, the 2016 Mazda2 aims to be 20% more fuel efficient than the previous iteration thanks to the implementation of Mazda's SKYACTIV Technology.

Toyota's floor space drew considerable attention, perhaps due to the conspicuous rotating exhibits of the envelope-pushing 2014 hybrid racecar, the TS030 and the newly unveiled FT-1 – a screamer of a concept (said to be the next Supra). Toyota also had its Canadian unveilings for its 2015 Prius C and V. The 2015 Prius V is the larger of the two, and with a fuel economy of 5.6L/100km, it might be the most fuel-efficient family car to be released this year. The 2015 Prius V base model starts at $27,500.

Audi also joined the crossover party this year. In addition to the Canadian unveilings of the 2016 A7 and the 2016 S6, Audi unveiled its first plug-in hybrid, the 2016 A3 e-tron. According to early test reports from Europe, the A3 e-tron will offer amazing fuel economy nearing 1.5L/100km. The A3 e-tron will hit North American markets this summer and is expected to retail at around $40,000.

Two other crossover concept cars made their North American premieres in Montreal – the Hyundai Intrado and the Subaru VIZIV 2. Both of these sleek concepts are optimistic attestations to the feasibility of a global shift from fossil fuels to more sustainable and eco-friendly alternatives. The Intrado runs on hydrogen fuel-cell technology and reportedly gets 600km/tank, emitting only water vapour. The VIZIV 2 is a diesel-electric hybrid, boasting an updated version of Subaru's signature "symmetrical" all-wheel-drive technology to provide state-of-the-art handling precision in all terrains and weather conditions.

The 2015 trucks were out in full force. It's a North American thing – west of the Atlantic we recognize there's no substitute for a good pick-up. Although there were no first-time Canadian unveilings for pickups, the biggest, baddest contenders in the truck market were letting it all hang out. GMC, Ford, Dodge and Chevrolet were all packing a big-wheeled wallop.

Ford wasn't shy about showcasing its award-winning series of full-size pickups. The silver F-150 XLT-XTR was capped with a triangle signifying an award from the Automobile Journalists Association of Canada (AJAC) for the "2015 best new pick-up." These trucks are especially popular in Canada and the U.S., and the Ford section of the floor was loaded

Be Winter Active!
Winter Active events
will take place in your community
from January 24 to March 28, 2015.
Want to join in the fun?
Contact your local CHR or
Community Public Health
Department.
More info:
Wally Rabbitskin
418 923-2204 extension 42365
418 923-2564 (fax)
wrabbitskin@ssss.gouv.qc.ca
Kino
Québec

with dozens of people lined up for the chance to examine this year's models.

Rugged and spacious, the F-150 comes in five classes ranging from the most affordable, the F-150 XL, which starts at $21,399, to the top-of-the-line F-150 Platinum, which starts at $66,999. The 2015 F-150s are officially the most patented truck in Ford's history, with more than 100 patents and patents pending riding on their burly shoulders. New innovations include an all-aluminum body, and a lighter, more compact turbocharged EcoBoost V6 engine, available in either 2.7L or 3.5L. According to Ford, these additions mean the new F-150s weigh up to 300 kg less and offer better fuel economy than older models.

Not to be upstaged, Dodge was ready to defend its place in the pickup food-chain by showcasing its acclaimed 2015 Ram series, boldly marketed as "Canada's most fuel-efficient pickup."

The 1500 Laramie EcoDiesel V6 model is the only pickup option in its class with a diesel engine. The EcoDiesel engine, exclusively available in the Laramie Longhorn 1500 model, has 240 horsepower and a 4,100 kg towing capacity. Its big brother, the Laramie Longhorn 2500 trades up the V6 for a 5.7L HEMI V8 in the base version. The upgraded 2500 6.4L HEMI V8 delivers Best-in-Class 410 horsepower, while the 6.7L I-6 Cummins Turbo Diesel has the Best-in-Class ¾ ton towing with an advertised towing capacity of over 8,000 kg. The eldest brother, the gargantuan, dual-wheeled Laramie Longhorn 3500, offers Best-in-Class payload capability of up to 3,350 kg, and Best-in-Class towing of up to 13,600 kg.

The most stylish cargo van in the building, the 2015 Ram Promaster City SLT, won Best-in-Class standard cargo capacity with a maximum cargo volume of 13,100L (460 cubic feet). Starting at $27,995, the Promaster City and can carry a maximum payload of up to 2,300 kg. Two powertrain configurations are available – the standard gasoline-powered, 3.6L Pentastar V6 engine with a 6-speed automatic transmission, or the more fuel-efficient 3.0L EcoDiesel I-4 engine with 6-speed automated manual transmission.

Lambo Gallardos

Silverado 1500

Civic 1995

49TH EDITION
FESTIVAL FOLIFRETS
Baie-James
Ville de Chibougamau
FEBRUARY 26TH TO MARCH 7TH 2015
An Adventure You Can't Miss !
CROSS-COUNTRY
345 KM
race through the boreal forest
FEBRUARY 28TH 2015
20 000$
IN PRIZES
AND MORE...
PRO
SPORT (Woman)
VINTAGE
2000 year model and less
Thanks to all partners
HÉLI EXPRESS
GOLDCORP ÉLÉONORE
Desjardins
For info : Claude Girard, President - 418 770-6135
www.FESTIVALFOLIFRETS.com
Follow us on Facebook

The Quebec-made Magnum MK5 made its Canadian debut

For those in the market for midsized trucks, the 2015 Chevrolet Colorado is lauded as Motor Trend's "2015 Truck of the Year." Starting at $19,900, the affordable base Colorado is only available in 2WD and makes the most of a 2.5L direct-injected 4-cylinder engine. The fully upgraded Colorado Z71 comes with a 3.6L V6 engine, enhanced suspension and 4WD for $31,500.

The 2015 Silverado is Chevrolet's full-sized pickup model. Featuring a redesigned interior and exterior, the Silverado 3500 HD-DRW exudes an imposing presence that commands respect. Under the hood dwells a Duramax 6.6L Turbo-Diesel V8 engine with 4WD capability. This truck is ready to work toe-to-toe with the Ram 3500 but at a slightly less exorbitant cost. The Silverado 3500 HD is gigantic and beastly, but with a sense of robust functionality that is somewhat absent from the more glamorous designs of other full-sized trucks. These include the more expensive, chrome-laden luxury in the GMC Sierra LTZ-Denali, which looks more like a vanity ride than a professional grade utility vehicle.

The Quebec-made Magnum MK5 made its Canadian debut at this year's show and managed to hold its own in the face of other highly anticipated sports car premieres such as the Lamborghini Huracan and the Porsche 911 Carrera 4 GTS. The MK5 is a (barely) street-legal supercar designed by the famous Québécois racecar driver Bruno St-Jacques. The poster-child of this year's auto show, known as the "Vedette du Québec," the MK5 features an ultra-light carbon fibre body weighing only 545 kg. The MK5 uses a 4-cylinder, 250-horsepower engine that allows the car to accelerate from 0-100km/h in 3.2 seconds, and attain a top speed of 240 km/h. The MK5 will retail for $139,000.

An agonizing and exhilarating tug-of-war between automotive passion and corporate excess, the 2015 MIAS delivered the best anyone could hope for in an auto show. Innovation is alive and well in the automotive industry as manufacturers shift to more efficient, cleaner energy. It's brighter still for open-minded Canadian consumers in the market for excellent automobiles.

Freedom is fleeting

by Xavier Kataquapit

In my travels through Asia this past winter, I realized how lucky I am to be living in a developed country. Many of the countries I visited, including Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Malaysia, often don't allow their residents to freely travel to other parts of the globe. As a matter of fact, the political realities in most of these countries – many of which are emerging democracies – is very harsh.

As Canadians, we take for granted many of our freedoms and advantages. For instance, we have (mostly) free health care, accessible education and a fairly open democracy. We can travel to wherever we want and all we need is the money and time. Most people in other parts of the world don't have the money, the time or even the right to travel.

Just about everyone I met on my trip through Asia expressed an interest in traveling to Canada, the United States or Europe. For most of them, it is an impossible dream.

Take Sangee, a young man I met in Delhi. He works 12 hours a day in a small hotel and makes about 7,000 rupees a month – about $66. At the age of 21, he managed to find an entry position in a Delhi hotel far from his home in Kashmir. When he does have the money and time to go home, he must take a train crammed with people without a sleeper for three days non-stop. He cannot afford to be sick or injured because he does not have much money at the end of the month after paying for a small room in a bleak building in the city centre with no kitchen facilities and a shared bathroom.

Sangee considers himself fortunate to speak English, which allows him entry into the tourism industry. He works hard and always has a smile on his face. The reality is that he is more or less enduring a life in what is billed as a democratic system in India. The truth is that although India is emerging as a powerful economic, manufacturing and consumer nation, it is far from democratic.

There is a small wealthy class of people, not much of a middle class and the vast majority struggle with poverty or on the edge of poverty. Moving up the social order is extremely difficult. The pollution in Delhi when I was there was so bad a doctor warned me not to venture outside too much as I had a cold and cough. I saw far too many people living on the streets or in shanty shacks. I even saw people who worked at collecting cow dung to dry into patties, which they then sold as fuel.

As Canadians we have so much to be happy about. However, if we don't keep an eye on our governments, how they are elected and what their goals are, we could lose many of the freedoms and benefits that we now enjoy.

We are so lucky to be living in Canada in a democracy and economy that developed in a relatively short time. Tiny elites controlling resources and its populations mark most of our history on this planet. It is up to each of us to do our part in maintaining our democracy and system of sharing resources fairly.

The Aboriginal population in Canada only won the right to vote in Canadian elections in 1960. For most of the history in Canada, Aboriginal people were viewed as subhuman. It is amazing what a little time and education can achieve in this world.

If we think that we are guaranteed a Canada that is democratic and peaceful, we need to make sure that we are not allowing the 1% with most of the wealth to make all of the big decisions. If we want an open and free country where we actually care about each other and other people on the planet, then we need to learn more about how governments are controlled, where parties get their funding and expertise from, and what influential powers are pulling the strings. I have seen some so-called democracies where only money and greed are the reality. We never want that to happen here.

Rezolution Pictures will soon be filming our third season of

Working It Out Together

It's a TV series that explores peoples' journeys to health and wellness in our communities.

We are looking for participants and collaborators!

Are you involved in a great health or wellness project?

Are you or someone you know thinking of making a lifestyle change?

Do you have something to share about Fitness & Nutrition, Emotional & Mental Health or Body Image & Sexual Health?

Come work it out with us!

Send us an email at wiot@rezolutionpictures.com.
Visit www.workingitouttogether.com to see our previous seasons.

Look for us in your community in late winter and spring 2015!

les films rezolution pictures

aptn

Is the outdoors your passion?

Become an Environmental Technician!

Enrol in the NATURAL ENVIRONMENT TECHNOLOGY (NET) PROGRAM!

This DEC program will train you to preserve our land through a unique educational approach utilizing both environmental professionals and Cree Elders. You will learn about wildlife conservation, environmental protection and sustainable development.

This 3-year English program is given at the Centre d'études collégiales in Chibougamau. Admission requirements are a high school diploma or equivalency.

Contact:
Kyle McKee, Pedagogical Counsellor
418 748-4996 ext. 224 / kmckee@cegepstfe.ca
or your Niskamoon Local Coordinator

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 1, 2015

Love the outdoors! Work outdoors! Enrol today!

2 Lakeshore Road,
Nemaska, Québec J0Y 3B0
www.niskamoon.org

NISKAMOON CORPORATION